

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LONDON 02373 101202Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 IO-13 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 AID-05 EB-08 /094 W

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R 101150Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 501

INFO: RUESBA/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 565

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LONDON 2373

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AR, UK

SUBJECT: TED ROWLANDS TO VISIT ARGENTINA AND FALKLAND ISLANDS

REF BUENOS AIRES 1076

1. MINISTER OF STATE TED ROWLANDS LEAVES LONDON FEBRUARY 14 FOR A TEN-DAY VISIT TO THE FALKLAND ISLANDS AND ARGENTINA. HIS MISSION IS THE FIRST SIGNIFICANT STEP BY THE GOVERNMENT FOLLOWING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SHACKLETON REPORT, AND REPRESENTS A NEW EFFORT BY HMG TO RESOLVE THE GNAWING DILEMMA OF THE FALKLAND ISLANDS. SHACKLETON SAID THE ISLANDS' ECONOMY WOULD LIKELY ATROPHY WITHOUT MAJOR INVESTMENT TO DEVELOP SIGNIFICANT NATURAL RESOURCES SUCH AS KRILL, OTHER FISH, AND OIL. THE FINANCIALLY STRAPPED BRITISH GOVERNMENT CANNOT COME UP WITH DEVELOPMENT FUNDS ON ANYTHING LIKE THE REQUIRED SCALE, AND PRIVATE INVESTMENT WILL NOT FILL THE GAP UNTIL POLITICAL UNCERTAINTIES HAVE BEEN SETTLED. THE ONLY APPARENT ANSWER, SHACKLETON WENT ON, IS ESTABLISHING A FRAMEWORK OF COOPERATION WITH ARGENTINA WITHOUT COMPROMISING THE PRINCIPLE OF SOVEREIGNTY. WHETHER ANGLO/ ARGENTINE ECONOMIC COLLABORATION IS POSSIBLE WHILE ANGLO/

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PAGE 02 LONDON 02373 101202Z

ARGENTINE POLITICAL DIFFERENCES REMAIN IS THE DIFFICULT PATH WHICH ROWLANDS WILL SET OUT TO EXPLORE.

2. ROWLANDS WILL TRANSIT BUENOS AIRES FEBRUARY 15, SPEND THE NEXT FIVE DAYS IN THE ISLANDS, AND THEN RETURN TO BUENOS AIRES FOR SUBSTANTIVE TALKS FEBRUARY 21-23. THE FCO INFORMS US THAT ROWLANDS IS CARRYING NO SPECIFIC

PROPOSALS OTHER THAN THE BROAD SUGGESTION THAT THE TWO
GOVERNMENTS LOOK FOR WAYS OUT OF THE CURRENT IMPASSE.
ON THE QUESTION OF RESUMING AMBASSADORIAL REPRESENTATION
(REFTEL), THE FCO WILL NOT PRESS THE ISSUE AND BELIEVESV
IT IS UP TO THE ARGENTINES TO MAKE THE OVERTURE. IF THE
GOA WISHES TO REESTABLISH NORMAL RELATIONS, HMG WILL
HAPPILY AGREE.

ARMSTRONG

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: ITINERARY, MINISTERIAL MEETINGS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 10-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Format: TEL
From: LONDON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770255/aaaabwfr.tel
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Litigation Codes:
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Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
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SAS ID: 3355912
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